

# *Bootle Union Rural Sanitary Authority.*

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## Annual Report for 1896.

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GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my third Annual Report for your consideration.

I am pleased to say that most of the insanitary conditions, which were mentioned in my Annual Report of last year, have been remedied, viz., at Beckfoot in Broughton-in-Furness, the extension of the Main Sewer at Seascale, and the Hill Marsh Extension Water Supply. At the latter place, the farmsteads, dairies, and cottages have been connected to the water mains by services of pipes, and taps are all placed inside the dwellings, or where they can be protected from the frost.

With regard to the Drigg Village Water Supply—It is a somewhat difficult problem to solve, as the houses are so scattered and the supplies of water so unsatisfactory, there being no pure water shed near that could be used on the gravitation principle. What houses are supplied with water, obtain it from wells, some of them (the wells) sunk in positions perhaps too near possible sources of contamination. Some of these wells supply fairly palatable water, but others are considered by the tenants unfit for use, and prefer to carry water from a distance. The Authority have given notice to the owners of houses with the latter kind of wells, and those houses with no water supply, to make better and safer provision.

I regret to say that the insanitary conditions existing at Silecroft, mentioned in my last year's Report, have not

yet been wholly rectified, there still remain some which require immediate attention, and I must endeavour to remind the Authority of the grave responsibility that rests upon them in delaying the remedying of these conditions; so long as they continue, so long must the Public Health be endangered. Increased Death, Zymotic and Infant Mortality rates are the results of a policy of procrastination.

One or two nuisances have been reported since my last Report, and have been dealt with accordingly.

Of infectious diseases, a mild epidemic of Measles was prevalent during the Spring and the early part of Summer. Four cases of Scarlet Fever were brought to my notice during the year: two at Seascale, which, fortunately, by strict precautions were prevented from spreading, the cause being traced to insanitary conditions of the surroundings during the hot part of Summer. Two in Eskdale (Irton Road) which were imported from Whitehaven, and which, also, were confined to one house. The families in each of these cases giving me every help in carrying out the strictest precautions against the spread of the disease. This is not a true return of the infectious diseases in my district, as the Notification Act not being in force, I am indebted to the courtesy of the Medical Practitioners in the district for the report of any infectious cases.

Here it would be advisable to bring before the notice of the Authority the great advantages conferred by the adoption of the Notification Act. Unfortunately, it is an adoptive Act, but the great majority of Sanitary Authorities have adopted it, its advantages being so manifest, among them being the following:—Early information of all cases of Notifiable diseases, and therefore an accurate knowledge

of disease prevalence and distribution in districts. Opportunity afforded of inquiry into the probable causes of infection—as milk, water, schools, insanitary condition of premises, &c. It is only by the comparison of data, afforded by inquiring into the particulars of each case notified, that outbreaks can be detected and checked. Power to secure prompt removal to Hospital if that is practicable, and to enforce the provisions of the Public Health Act, and the Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, with respect to Isolation, Quarantine, and Disinfection.

The usual Statistical Tables are appended to this Report. In Table “A” it will be seen the number of Births and Deaths is less than it has been for the last five years. Infant Mortality has decreased each year for the last three years. Nearly half the number of deaths are over 65 years of age, and of the seven deaths occurring in Ulpha, all were above 65 years.

Bootle and Millom Rural District have a rather large number of deaths, the former having 20 births and 14 deaths, the latter 39 births and 26 deaths. In both cases a good many of the deaths occurred at a ripe age. With regard to the various diseases causing the deaths, there is an increase in the number from Heart Disease, Malignant Disease, and Whooping Cough in comparison with last year's Report. The Zymotic death-rate keeps low.

In conclusion, I have again to express my indebtedness to the Authority and their officials for the aid they have rendered to me in discharge of my duties.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

E. EDEN CASS,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

TABLE A.—POPULATION.

|                             |     |     |     |     |       |
|-----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Census, 1881                | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5,992 |
| „ 1891                      | ... | ... | ..  | ... | 5,982 |
| Estimated to middle of 1896 |     |     | ... | ... | 5,967 |

## BIRTHS and DEATHS (with their rates).

|      | Births. | Birth-rate. | Deaths. | Death-rate. |
|------|---------|-------------|---------|-------------|
| 1892 | 140     | 23·4        | 95      | 15·8        |
| 1893 | 131     | 21·8        | 101     | 16·8        |
| 1894 | 135     | 22·5        | 79      | 13·2        |
| 1895 | 131     | 21·9        | 80      | 13·3        |
| 1896 | 126     | 21·1        | 73      | 12·2        |

TABLE B.—DEATHS.

|                      |      |     |       | 1894. | 1895. | 1896. |
|----------------------|------|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Under 1 year         | ...  | ... | ...   | 18    | 13    | 9     |
| 1 and under 5 years  |      | ... | ...   | 7     | 7     | 6     |
| 5 „ 15 „             | 15 „ | ..  | ...   | 2     | 0     | 2     |
| 15 „ 25 „            | 25 „ | ... | ...   | 5     | 0     | 2     |
| 25 „ 65 „            | 65 „ | ... | ..    | 24    | 26    | 22    |
| 65 years and upwards |      | ... | ...   | 23    | 34    | 32    |
|                      |      |     |       | —     | —     | —     |
|                      |      |     | Total | 79    | 80    | 73    |

TABLE C.

|                     |     |       | BIRTHS. |      |  | DEATHS. |       |       |
|---------------------|-----|-------|---------|------|--|---------|-------|-------|
|                     |     | 1894. | 1895.   | 1896 |  | 1894.   | 1895. | 1896. |
| Males               | ... | 70    | 67      | 77   |  | 44      | 47    | 42    |
| Females             | ... | 65    | 64      | 49   |  | 35      | 33    | 31    |
|                     |     | —     | —       | —    |  | —       | —     | —     |
| Total               |     | 135   | 131     | 126  |  | 79      | 80    | 73    |
|                     |     |       |         |      |  | 1894.   |       |       |
| Inquests            | ... |       | ...     | ...  |  | 11      | 8     | 5     |
| Uncertified deaths  |     |       | ...     | ...  |  | 8       | 0     | 0     |
| Deaths in Workhouse |     |       | ...     | ...  |  | 7       | 3     | 4     |

TABLE D.—ZYMOTIC DEATH-RATE.

|          |         |         |
|----------|---------|---------|
| 1894=1·6 | 1895=·3 | 1896=·5 |
|----------|---------|---------|

TABLE E.

|                        |     |     |     |     |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Infant Mortality, 1894 | ... | ... | ... | 133 |
| „ 1895                 | ... | ... | ... | 99  |
| „ 1896                 | ... | ... | ... | 70  |

TABLE F.

|                       |     |     |     | 1895.   |          |        | 1896.   |          |        |        |          |        |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|-----|---------|----------|--------|---------|----------|--------|--------|----------|--------|
|                       |     |     |     | BIRTHS. |          |        | DEATHS. |          |        |        |          |        |
|                       |     |     |     | Males.  | Females. | Total. | Males.  | Females. | Total. | Males. | Females. | Total. |
| Birker and Austhwaite |     |     |     | 1       | 3        | 4      | ...     | ...      | ...    | 1      | .        | 1      |
| Bootle                | ... | ... | ... | 10      | 13       | 23     | 10      | 8        | 18     | 11     | 9        | 20     |
| Corney                | ..  | ... | ... | 2       | 1        | 3      | .       | ...      | ...    | 1      | 1        | 2      |
| Drigg                 | ... | ... | ... | 8       | 7        | 15     | 5       | 5        | 10     | 7      | 8        | 15     |
| Eskdale               | ..  | ... | ... | 6       | 3        | 9      | 1       | 1        | 2      | 3      | 1        | 4      |
| Wastdale              | ... | ... | ... | ...     | ...      | ...    | ...     | ...      | ...    | ...    | ...      | ...    |
| Irton                 | ... | ... | ... | 4       | 7        | 11     | 6       | 3        | 9      | 9      | 4        | 13     |
| Millom                | ..  | ... | ... | 25      | 15       | 40     | 12      | 6        | 18     | 24     | 15       | 39     |
| Muncaster             | ... | ... | ... | 3       | 7        | 10     | 1       | 3        | 4      | 12     | 4        | 16     |
| Ulpha                 | ... | ... | ... | 1       | 1        | 2      | 3       | 1        | 4      | 5      | 3        | 8      |
| Waberthwaite          | ... | ... | ... | 3       | 3        | 3      | 2       | 5        | .      | 2      | 2        | 1      |
| Whitbeck              | ... | ... | ... | 2       | 2        | 4      | 2       | 1        | 3      | 2      | ...      | 2      |
| Whicham               | ... | ... | ... | 5       | 2        | 7      | 4       | 3        | 7      | 2      | 2        | 4      |
| Totals                |     |     |     | 67      | 64       | 131    | 47      | 33       | 80     | 77     | 49       | 126    |

TABLE G.—The Causes and Number of Deaths in the Localities of the District.

|                       | Small Pox. | Measles. | Scarlet Fever. | Diphtheria. | Membranous Croup. | Whooping Cough. | Typhus Fever. | Enteric Fever. | Other or Doubtful Fevers. | Cholera. | Rheumatic Fever. | Pyæmia. | Ague. | Puerperal Fever. | Erysipelas. | Phthisis. | Bronchitis. | Pneumonia. | Pleurisy. | Heart Disease. | Injuries. | All Other Diseases. | TOTAL. |
|-----------------------|------------|----------|----------------|-------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------------------|----------|------------------|---------|-------|------------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|------------|-----------|----------------|-----------|---------------------|--------|
| Birker and Austhwaite | ...        | ...      | ...            | ...         | ...               | ...             | ...           | ...            | ...                       | ...      | ...              | ...     | ...   | ...              | ...         | ...       | ...         | ...        | ...       | ...            | ...       | ...                 | ...    |
| Bootle ...            | ...        | ...      | ...            | ...         | ...               | ...             | ...           | ...            | ...                       | ...      | ...              | ...     | ...   | ...              | ...         | 2         | 3           | ...        | ...       | 2              | ...       | 7                   | 14     |
| Corney ...            | ...        | ...      | ...            | ...         | ...               | ...             | ...           | ...            | 1                         | ...      | ...              | ...     | ...   | ...              | ...         | ...       | ...         | 1          | ...       | ...            | ...       | 1                   | 3      |
| Drigg ...             | ...        | ...      | ...            | ...         | ...               | ...             | ...           | ...            | ...                       | ...      | ...              | ...     | ...   | ...              | ...         | ...       | ...         | ...        | ...       | ...            | ...       | 5                   | 5      |
| Eskdale and Wastdale  | ...        | ...      | ...            | ...         | ...               | ...             | ...           | ...            | ...                       | ...      | ...              | ...     | ...   | ...              | ...         | ...       | ...         | ...        | ...       | ...            | ...       | ...                 | ...    |
| Irton ...             | ...        | ...      | ...            | ...         | ...               | ...             | ...           | ...            | 1                         | ...      | ...              | ...     | ...   | ...              | ...         | ...       | ...         | ...        | ...       | 1              | ...       | 1                   | 1      |
| Millom ...            | ...        | ...      | ...            | ...         | ...               | 3               | ...           | 1              | ...                       | ...      | ...              | ...     | ...   | ...              | ...         | 1         | 3           | ...        | ...       | 3              | ...       | 1                   | 3      |
| Muncaster             | ...        | ...      | ...            | ...         | ...               | ...             | ...           | ...            | ...                       | ...      | ...              | ...     | ...   | ...              | ...         | 1         | ...         | ...        | ...       | 2              | 1         | 1                   | 5      |
| Ulpha ...             | ...        | ...      | ...            | ...         | ...               | ...             | ...           | ...            | ...                       | ...      | ...              | ...     | ...   | ...              | ...         | 1         | ...         | ...        | ...       | 1              | ...       | 5                   | 7      |
| Waberthwaite          | ...        | ...      | ...            | ...         | ...               | ...             | ...           | ...            | ...                       | ...      | ...              | ...     | ...   | ...              | ...         | ...       | ...         | ...        | ...       | 1              | ...       | ...                 | 1      |
| Whitbeck              | ...        | ...      | ...            | ...         | ...               | ...             | ...           | ...            | ...                       | ...      | ...              | ...     | ...   | ...              | ...         | ...       | 1           | ...        | ...       | ...            | ...       | ...                 | 1      |
| Whigham               | ...        | ...      | ...            | ...         | ...               | ...             | ...           | ...            | ...                       | ...      | ...              | ...     | ...   | ...              | ...         | 1         | 1           | ...        | ...       | 1              | ...       | ...                 | ...    |
| Totals                | ...        | ...      | ...            | ...         | ...               | 3               | ...           | 1              | 2                         | ...      | ...              | ...     | ...   | ...              | ...         | 6         | 8           | 1          | ...       | 11             | ...       | 388                 | 73     |

TABLE H.—AGE MORTALITY.

| Deaths during<br>1895. 1896. |    | Disease.                                | 1895.          |          |        | 1896.              |          |        |
|------------------------------|----|---|----------------|----------|--------|--------------------|----------|--------|
|                              |    |   | Under 5 years. |          |        | 5 years & upwards. |          |        |
|                              |    |   | Males.         | Females. | Total. | Males.             | Females. | Total. |
| ..                           | .. | Small Pox ..                            | ..             | ..       | ..     | ..                 | ..       | ..     |
| ..                           | .. | Measles ...                             | ..             | ..       | ..     | ..                 | ..       | ..     |
| ..                           | .. | Scarlet Fever ..                        | ..             | ..       | ..     | ..                 | ..       | ..     |
| 1                            | .. | Diphtheria ..                           | 1              | ..       | 1      | ..                 | ..       | ..     |
| ..                           | .. | Membranous Croup ..                     | ..             | ..       | ..     | ..                 | ..       | ..     |
| ..                           | 3  | Whooping Cough ..                       | ..             | ..       | ..     | 2                  | 1        | 3      |
| 1                            | 1  | Enteric Fever ...                       | ..             | ..       | ..     | 1                  | ..       | 1      |
| ..                           | 2  | Diarrhœa and Dysentery ..               | ..             | ..       | ..     | ..                 | 1        | 1      |
| ..                           | .. | Rheumatic Fever ..                      | ..             | ..       | ..     | ..                 | ..       | ..     |
| ..                           | .. | Puerperal Fever ..                      | ..             | ..       | ..     | ..                 | ..       | ..     |
| 1                            | .. | Parturition ..                          | ..             | ..       | ..     | 1                  | 1        | ..     |
| ..                           | .. | Other or Doubtful Fevers ..             | ..             | ..       | ..     | ..                 | ..       | ..     |
| 4                            | 6  | Phthisis ..                             | ..             | ..       | ..     | 3                  | 1        | 4      |
| 10                           | 8  | Bronchitis ..                           | 2              | 3        | 5      | 2                  | 3        | 5      |
| 4                            | 1  | Pneumonia ..                            | ..             | ..       | ..     | 4                  | ..       | 4      |
| ..                           | .. | Pleurisy... ..                          | ..             | ..       | ..     | ..                 | ..       | ..     |
| 8                            | 11 | Heart Disease ..                        | ..             | ..       | ..     | 5                  | 3        | 8      |
| ..                           | .. | Tubercle of Lymph Glands ..             | ..             | ..       | ..     | ..                 | ..       | ..     |
| 1                            | 2  | Dentition and Convulsions ..            | ..             | 1        | 1      | ..                 | 1        | 1      |
| 10                           | 4  | Diseases of Brain and Nervous System .. | 1              | ..       | 1      | 4                  | 5        | 9      |
| 3                            | 7  | Malignant Disease ..                    | ..             | ..       | ..     | 1                  | 2        | 3      |
| 6                            | 3  | Injuries ... ..                         | ..             | 1        | 1      | 5                  | ..       | 5      |
| ..                           | .. | Erysipelas ..                           | ..             | ..       | ..     | ..                 | 1        | 1      |
| ..                           | .. | Syphilis... ..                          | ..             | ..       | ..     | ..                 | ..       | ..     |
| 31                           | 25 | All Other Diseases ..                   | 7              | 3        | 10     | 13                 | 8        | 21     |
| 80                           | 73 | Totals ..                               | 11             | 8        | 19     | 39                 | 22       | 61     |

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